

Gc
929.2
C345g



Presented by
Lillian Rich (McLaughlin) Gilligan.
1935

ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY



3 1833 02596 9152

Gc 929.2 C345g
Gilligan, Lillian Rich
McLaughlin.
The Chadwick family of
Jones' plantation in Maine

The Chadwick Family
Of
Jones' Plantation
In
Maine.

...

...

...

...

...

Compiled By
Lillian Rich (McLaughlin) Gilligan
1931

Allen County Public Library
900 Webster Street
PO Box 2270
Fort Wayne, IN 46801-2270

Allen County Public Library
900 Webster Street
PO Box 2270
Fort Wayne, IN 46801-2270

Allen County Public Library
900 Webster Street
PO Box 2270
Fort Wayne, IN 46801-2270

Jones' Plantation.

In 1774, when only Indians were inhabitants of all the lands east of the Kennebec, one John Jones, a surveyor, and withal a man of great daring and perseverance - familiarly known as "Black Jones" laid out a new township to the east of the Kennebec, embracing most of the land now known as China, and called it Jones's Plantation. In the summer of that year Jones had induced 4 brothers - Edmund, Jonathan, Ephraim and Andrew Clark to come from Nantucket and settle as pioneers on his plantation. They settled on the west side of the pond near the narrows. They were soon followed by other families, the Fishes, Burrells, Ward and others. These latter settled towards the head of the lake. When the Chadwicks settled in Jones' Plantation the 4 Clark families were the only inhabitants of the town. The part of the town to the south of the narrows was as yet unoccupied.

In 1782 several families moved from the towns in the southern part of Massachusetts, notably from the cape towns - Falmouth, Barnstable, Dartmouth, Sandwich and Scituate all furnished their quotas.

It was at this time in the spring of 1782 that James and Ruth Chadwick with their then unmarried children, Job, Ichabod, Elizabeth, and Judah moved to the new settlements on the extreme end of Jones' Plantation. But the married sons John and James with their families followed the year after their parents departed taking with them their youngest brother Lot, who, being too young to endure the hardships of pioneer life, had been left with his grandmother, Elizabeth, when the parents went to the new settlement.

About the time James and Ruth moved to Maine other families went from Falmouth to Jones' Plantation, either with them, or soon after; among them the Hatches, Weeks, Hamlins and others. These families were all closely related to the Chadwicks by marriage. James married a Hatch, two of his sons married Weeks and one a Hamlin.

How these settlers removed to their new fields we are not told; but they probably went by sailing vessels to and up the Kennebec as far as it was then navigable. It is said that when James, Jr. moved his family in 1783 he transported his earthly all in an emigrant's wagon drawn by oxen.

One tradition says the Chadwick family first settled in Vassalboro, at what was known as Gatchell's Corner; but it is more likely that only a temporary stop was made at this place, till the head of

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018

the family could decide where to locate permanently. At any rate we find James and his family established in the spring of 1782, in Jones' Plantation, on the southerly side of the road, which subsequently was built from what came to be known as Chadwick's corner to Wentworth's corner - once quite familiar locations; but alas, today nothing remains of their famous glory but the corners.

"Two hundred acres of land were taken up, a rude log house built, an orchard planted, and pioneer life started in good earnest. The land originally planted with apple trees is today covered with a thick growth of young pines; so that if one wants to find the old apple trees he must search carefully for them among the young saplings; but if he is thorough enough in his search he will find the old trees, now one hundred and twenty years old, still standing among the lofty pines and producing yearly a few apples as if in silent protest against the encroachments of the saplings. But, we fancy we can almost hear the young pines claiming for themselves, or their ancestors, the prior right".

The cellar of the original log house can still be seen, by those who know where to look for it. In about two years a larger and more commodious house was built, a framed one, a little north of the first one, to better accommodate the growing tribe, whose sons were now taking wives to themselves. Here lived probably one of the sons, tho' one account makes the father to have lived there. The cellar of the second house is easily discernable today.

James was not long in making the discovery that he had settled on the wrong end of his farm; the westerly end being rocky, while the land to the east was comparatively free from rocks. He began the erection of a large two storied house, on the easterly end of his farm, at least half a mile from his house then in use. This house was situated on the westerly side of the road that afterward led from So. China to Windsor. It was while thus engaged upon his new house that word was brought to him that his house was on fire. In hurrying to the rescue of his family he was stricken with apoplexy and died immediately Sept. 6th, 1786. His body was buried on his farm just west of his house, the exact spot unknown with lapse of time and remained so 'till 1880. His wife Ruth was buried in the same lot. It is a reproach to family that the graves of our ancestors and his worthy wife, the pioneer settlers of this part of the town, should be unmarked to this day, and even the exact spot where their bodies lie should be unknown so long. My father once procured a tablet for the grave but a legal question prevented its ever being set up. The tablet I subsequently found, broken into a dozen pieces, at a spring where cattle were accustomed to drink. It is most devoutly to be hoped that this association will take measures to prevent the further perpetuation of this disgrace.

The house which James was engaged in building when he died was completed by his family and was very near to the house afterward built by his grandson Corydon Chadwick son of Judah, who succeeded to the estate of his father James. I well remember visiting my grandmother, the wife of Judah, who continued to live by herself in this house after her son Corydon had removed to his new house, the one occupied by Mr. Thompson, principal of the Erskine Academy. I can recall the looks of the old house, which to my youthful mind appeared of proportions like a Baron's castle, with its numerous windows, its 2 stacks of immense chimneys, its large brass knocker on the front door. It was destroyed by fire in the early forties, being at that time occupied as an office for the use of the Board of Selectmen, whose owner was chairman of the Board. With this house were destroyed many valuable papers belonging to James Chadwick which if in our possession today would throw much light upon the family history.

The hardships and privations endured by our ancestors as the pioneer settlers of this part of the town were such as to seem almost incredible to us in these days of plenty and conveniences of every kind.

Their log house was unprovided with doors or windows of glass and there was little to prevent bears and wolves from encroaching upon their families except the ever ready rifle of the proprietor, which was always at hand for any emergency. At first their only meat was the flesh of moose and bears. Sheep and hogs couldn't be raised on account of the encroachments of wolves and bears. Fish and game were of course abundant.

The nearest grist mill was at Cobb - Gardiner. It would consume the larger part of three days for Jones to take a grist of corn upon his back to Gardiner, have it ground and return, a distance of 36 miles for the round trip. The route was either to Brown's corner in Vassalboro, by spotted trees, there being no roads, and then down the Kennebec in a canoe, or an entirely overland route could be taken, making the distance some 2 miles less.

On one occasion we are told, that a moose had been shot in the hot weather of summer; and that some portion of the meat might be salted for future use. James brought up from Gardiner on his back 3 pecks of rock salt, which would weigh not less than 65 lbs. The trip was accomplished in one day; but it took the most of the 24 hours to do it. What would our college athletes think of such a trip to develop their muscles? Where would the fun be? But notwithstanding the hardships and privations of our pioneer ancestors, they were conscientiously devoted to all their religious duties, they were a God fearing, sabbath respecting, order loving people.

Harlem.

In 1796 Jones' Plantation obtained from the legislature of Massachusetts an act incorporating it into a town, under the name of Harlem. In the spring of that year the first town meeting was held, when 29 votes were cast. It appears from the record that James Chadwick, Jr. was elected the first constable and collector of the town. In 1798, the vigorous young town of two years, began to exercise a little of that arbitrary power, against which the fathers had so earnestly and so successfully battle in the War of the Revolution, when the selectmen Ichabod Chadwick and Abraham Burrell, in the name of the state issued this order to the constable Edmund Clark. "You are in the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts directed to warn and give notice to Barton Picker and Prince Brown with their families and all under their care who came from Vassalboro, not having obtained the consent of the town, that they depart the limits thereof within 15 days". We can afford to pardon our sires for this bit of tyranny for they had been less than a dozen years out from under the yoke of King George.

Chadwicks as Leaders.

For a long time Job Chadwick was the only spiritual guide the people of the town had of their own number. Those living on the neck in the n. w. section of the town were ministered unto from Vassalboro, they being much nearer to Vassalboro than to Harlem's only place of meeting.

Job Chadwick was also the first teacher of the town and for a long time was the only one, teaching in the school house before alluded to. He was succeeded in office by a Mr. Hatch, familiarly known as "Old Master Hatch" and he in turn by Job's son Paul. I remember to have seen in an old record of the town that Job Chadwick was paid the sum of \$35.00 for teaching the town's school one year. The Chadwicks were prominently identified with the establishing of the first public library. Among its proprietors were Corydon, Joseph, and Sylvanus Chadwick and Joseph Stewart, whose wife was a Chadwick, daughter of James, Jr., showing that the woman's influence was early made and bore for good. In civil affairs the Chadwicks appear to have had a fair share of responsibility. James, Jr. was chosen moderator for the years 1797, 1799, 1800, 1801, 1802. He was one of the selectmen in 1799 and 1800.

Ichabod was chosen moderator in 1798, 1805, 1807, 1808. He was one of the selectmen in 1797, 1798, 1799, 1800, 1801, 1802, 1803, 1804, 1805, 1806, 1807, 1809.

In the political history of the town our family has not been without its representatives. Besides town and county officers, they have contributed representatives to the legislature, senators, governors, counsellors and so on.

A New Town.

In 1818 a new town, called China was incorporated by an act of the legislature, embracing the northerly part of Harlem with portions of Winslow and Fairfax. Fairfax was later annexed to Winslow. But the separation was short for in 1822 Harlem and China consolidated under the latter name. We are told that the name was Bloomville in the original draft of the bill that consolidated the two towns, but that the member from Bloomfield fearing the confusion might arise from similarity of the two names objected to Bloomville and so the dear old town has had to struggle along for nearly one hundred years handicapped in the race for distinction by its celestial name.

1st.

Gear Chadwick .

Gear Chadwick (his baptismal name was Gayer) was the first child of James and Ruth (Hatch) Chadwick, but the town records of Falmouth, Mass. do not give the date of his birth. The Church records make him to have been bapt. in June, 1751. He went to Philadelphia, Penn. about 1774 and was married there to Amelia ----- where they had one daughter named Ruth (for his mother). When she was 2 years old he moved to Beaufort.

He soon after removed to Beaufort, N. Carolina, where he lived died and was buried; here there were born to them two daughters and one son.

Gear was engaged in some form of shipping business.

Children of Gear and Amelia Chadwick --

1. Rebecca, who married a Mr. Stanton but had no children and afterwards married a Mr. Borden, and had 1 son Benjamin Franklin and he had several children.
2. Ruth, who married a Mr. Fuller and afterwards a Mr. Hall.
3. Jane, who married Capt. John Guthrie.
4. James, who died young, never having been married.

Gear probably died in 1803 as his will was probated in that year.

2nd.

John Chadwick .

John the second child of James and Ruth Chadwick was born in Falmouth, Mass. June 28, 1749 and according to the Church record was bapt. Dec. 16, 1750. He was "published" as intending to marry Rhoda Weeks, Aug. 15, 1751, if we may credit the record, when but two years old and two months. But he did not marry her at all, as his family record says he married Mary Jane Allen, May 13, 1773. When the rest of the family removed from Falmouth, Mass. to Maine, John who was then married and living in Dartmouth (see his letter to Gear, 1782) did not go with them but followed them soon after. He did not remain in Maine, but removed with his family first to Coos Co., N. H. and thence shortly after to Bradford, Vt., where he died in 1821, and was buried. He had four children. Another account makes John to have gone directly from Dartmouth to Bradford, Vt.

Children of John and Mary Chadwick --

1. Jane, b. July 10, 1774, who married Ephraim Bartlett.
2. Rebecca, b. June 21, 1778, who married Paul Swett.
3. John, b. March 31, 1784, who married Mary Stevens.
4. Ruth, b. Sept. 11, 1786, who married Tarrant Putnam and afterwards Benjamin Brock.

John Chadwick (1749--1821) was Lieut., 1776--1777 in Capt. Nathan Peters Co., 3rd regiment of foot, under Col. Ebenezer Learned. He was wounded at White Plains and honorably discharged. (See D. A. R. Lineage Book, vol. 45, p. 316, also vol. 59, p. 195.)

3rd.

James Chadwick, Jr.

James the third child of James and Ruth (Hatch) Chadwick according to the Church records was bapt. Feb. 25, 1753. He married Rhoda Weeks according to his family record (and his pension papers) Sept. 30, 1779. They had two children a daughter and a son while living in Falmouth and eight others after the family removed to Maine.

James and his wife followed the rest of the family the year after they had gone. James settled in Jones' Plantation, near his father James, $\frac{1}{2}$ mile south of So. China Village, on the farm later known as the "Esquire Stewart" place. Joseph Stewart married his daughter and settled on the same place. He was first Constable and Collector of the town (1796). He died in Harlem, now China, Maine, the 25th of Oct., 1826. Rhoda his wife died Jan. 30, 1831. (G. S. 75th., year)

Children of James and Rhoda (Weeks) Chadwick --

1. Sarah (Sally) b. May 17, 1780, d. in Corinth June 22, 1858, m. 1797 Charles McLaughlin b. Dec. 31, 1771, d. in Corinth Sept. 3, 1860.
2. Sylvanus who married Eunice Webber, d. in China Nov. 19, 1864, age 76 yrs, 3 mo.
3. Henry b. July 29, 1783, m. Patience Kelly b. Oct. 22.
4. Lydia who married Luther Pierce. They had son James Chadwick b. Dec. 6, 1819, m. Nov. 6, 1853 Eliza Faddock Cates b. April 30, 1830, dau. of Edmund and Ann (Bunker) Cates.
5. Ruth who married Jerry Blaisdell.
6. Susan who married Joseph Stewart, Esq.
7. Charlotte who married Frederic W. Hammon.
8. Rosannah who married Enoch Gray. They had Hiram, James, Charles, Mary Ann, and another daughter.
9. Nancy who married Veranus Pierce.
10. James who died young and unmarried.

James Chadwick enlisted late in Dec. 1775 and served one year as private and Artificer in Capt. Peters' and John Chadwick's Co's., Col. Learned's and Brewer's Mass. Regt., was in the battle of White Plains. He afterwards served about four months as Midshipman on the U. S. Ship of War, "Warren", commanded by John B. Hopkins. Pensioned in 1818. S. A. R. #16560.

4th.

Job Chadwick

Job Chadwick was the fourth child of James and Ruth (Hatch) Chadwick and was born in Falmouth, Mass. Dec. 4, 1756 and married Mercy Weeks, born also in Falmouth Dec. 5, 1757. They were married in Harlan (now China) Sept. 13, 1784. Job Chadwick died Jan., 1832, Mercy his wife, March, 1826. He settled near the present town house in China.

Children of Job and Mercy (Weeks) Chadwick --

1. Abigail b. Nov. 30, 1785, who married Joseph Linn, 1816 and had a daughter Lois, who married Capt. Handy.
2. Paul b. May 30, 1787, who married Hanna Leeman, d. Sept. 10, 1809.
3. Abraham b. May 27, 1790, d. Oct. 1817, never married.
4. Lot, 2nd, b. Sept. 24, 1792, married Sally Linn (b. Sept. 29, 1798) Sept. 15, 1818.

5th.

Elizabeth Chadwick Fairfield

Elizabeth Chadwick, only Daughter and fifth child of James and Ruth (Hatch) Chadwick, was born in Falmouth, Mass. but the date of her birth, marriage and death are not known. She removed to Maine with the other members of her family in 1782. She was twice married - first to Daniel Fairfield of Vassalboro, and then to his brother Jeremiah Fairfield. Died 1828.

Children of Elizabeth Chadwick Fairfield --

1. Ruth Fairfield, dau. of Daniel Fairfield, the first husband.
2. Nancy " " " " " " " "
3. Daniel " Jr. son " " " " " "
4. Jotham " " " Jeremiah " " second "
5. Alpheus " " " " " " " "
- d. Feb. 26, 1879, 84 yrs, 8 mos.
6. Paulina Fairfield dau. of Jeremiah Fairfield, the second husband. She m. Butt.

Alpheus (5) had six children - Daniel, Silas, Peter, Susan, Ann, Eliza.

6th. Ichabod Chadwick

Ichabod Chadwick was the sixth child of James and Ruth (Hatch) Chadwick and was b. in Falmouth, Mass. in 1763 and d. in China, Maine March, 1844, aged 82 yrs. He married Priscilla Hamlin who was b. in Falmouth in 1770, and d. in China, 1855, aged 87 yrs. They had 12 children, 10 girls and 2 boys, an early sign of the coming of the "Female Kingdom". Ichabod settled in Faren, near the Winslow line, first on the --- Percival place in old Percival----

Children of Ichabod and Priscilla (Hamlin) Chadwick --

1. Zeruah Chadwick b. June 27, 1790 (usually called Sophia) m. John Norton, moved to Ohio in 1817, had 15 children.
2. Esther b. April 14, 1794, m. Jan. 25, 1816 Ephraim Webber and lived in China, d. 1863.
3. Clement b. April 2, 1792, left home when young and never heard from.
- *4. Chloe b. Aug. 6, 1796, m. 1816 James Patton (b. in Surry, 1793, d. Newport, Me. 1833), m. 2nd, Rev. Mr. Clark, d. 1855, 7 children.
5. Tryphena b. June 23, 1798, m. Jan. 25, 1816 Allen Carter of Stetson, lived in Etta, Me., d. 1875. Grandmother of "Holman Day".
6. Tryphosa b. May 3, 1800, m. David Spratt, March 5, 1822, lived in China and Carmel, Me., d. 1832. Had 13 children. Her son Alton died in Andersonville prison.
7. John b. Feb. 21, 1802, was a whaler, sailing from New Bedford, d. in Illinois 1875, was never married.
8. Eliza F. b. Oct. 23, 1804, d. in China, Me. 1875, never married.
9. Priscilla b. Sept. 6, 1806, m. Dr. James Brainerd May 11, 1831 and lived in China until his death in 1857 when she removed to Fitchburg, Mass., d. July 1890 aged 85.
10. Lucy b. Nov. 3, 1808, m. Sullivan Abbott Jan. 6, 1831, lived in Winslow, Me.
11. Julia Ann b. July 30, 1810, m. Freeman Shaw, (now 1901) lives in Albion.
12. Mary A. b. April 4, 1813, m. Thomas Stevens Nov. 21, 1838, lived in China till 1889 when she went to live with her son John H. in Oakland, Cal.

*James and Chloe (Chadwick) Patton's children were, John F., James, Nancy, Albert, Priscilla A., Eliza A., Elvira.

Ellen Aranda Brainerd (dau. of Dr. James and Priscilla (Chadwick) Brainerd) was b. Jan. 14, 1835 at China, Me., d. Aug. 23, 1907 at Fitchburg, Mass., m. at China, Me. May 31, 1857 Dudley Baldo Howe, son of

Israel and Sally (Richardson) Howe, b. July 15, 1830 at Princeton, Mass., d. Aug. 2, 1888 at Fitchburg, Mass., child; Nellie Brainerd b. Nov. 26, 1859 in Princeton, m. June 9, 1880 George Walcott Sands of Princeton. They had 7 children.

7th.

Judah Chadwick

Judah Chadwick, b. 1765 was the seventh child of James and Ruth (Hatch) Chadwick and went to Maine with the rest of the family. He married for his first wife ----- Ward of Vassalboro or China, Me., and by this marriage had one daughter Lucinda, Mrs. Samuel Tucker of Palermo, Me. A grandson of Mrs. Tucker's is Maj. Tucker, of the U. S. Army, who married the only daughter of Gen. John A. Logan, of Illinois.

Judah Chadwick married for his second wife Sally Webber of Vassalboro by whom he had 8 children on the homestead. He d. 1816. She was b. 1766, d. 1854, they were m. 1795 or 6.

Children of Judah and **Sally (Webber) Chadwick --

1. David Chadwick b. 1796, d. June 17, 1829, m. Mary V. Chapman, b. 1792, d. Jan. 4, 1824 of Thomaston, Me., had 3 children.
- 2.*Jason b. 1799, d. 1865, m. Rebecca Hamlin of China, 1822, she was b. 1800 and d. 1883.
3. Melinda b. d. unmarried.
4. Abel b. Feb. 2, 1802, d. July 5, 1885, m. Elizabeth Starrett, b. July 6, 1807, d. April 20, 1900. Had 3 sons.
5. Saphronia b. d. Married Nathan Freeman of China, Me.
6. Corydon b. d. m. Cyrene Hamlin of China, Me.
7. Caroline b. d. m. Abram Long of China, Me.
8. Joseph W. b. d. when a young man but betrothed to Susan Starrett sister of Elizabeth, wife of Abel.

*Jason Chadwick had a son Augustus W. b. 1837, m. Olive Taylor Furbish, 1859, first wife b. 1842, d. 1872, they had a daughter Olive b. in Boston, m. Helen Brooks MacFarland (see D. A. R. Lineage Book, vol. 80, p. 312.

**Sally Webber was daughter of Charles Webber b. 1741, d. 1819 was commissioned Lieut. serving in Capt. Dennis Getcholl's 5th. Co. 2nd. Lincoln Co. Regt. He was b. in York, Mass. and d. in Vassalboro, Maine.

8th.

Benjamin Chadwick

Benjamin Chadwick, eighth child of James and Ruth (Hatch) Chadwick left the parental roof in Falmouth, when young, probably a mere child and no definite knowledge of him was ever after obtained by his family in Falmouth. The only statement concerning him, made by his family, is obtained in a letter of John, his brother, written at Dartmouth, Mass., Aug. 10th, 1782, to his brother Gear in No. Carolina, in which he says among the family matters - "Brother Benjamin is at some of the West India Islands, I suppose, if he be living. Doubtless you have heard that he was left there at the first of this (Revolutionary) war. By being young and foolish, he engaged in the British service ----- (illegible). We hear he intends to come home when a chance presents".

There are various traditions about Benjamin. One that he went to sea, deserted the ship at Jamaica and became a wealthy planter, another that he enlisted in the British navy and became an officer of high rank. (It is known that the Chadwicks became distinguished Naval officers in England.) Still another, that he was so abused by the Captain of the ship with whom he sailed that he died at Jamaica and the story of his desertion at the port was an invention of the captain to cover up his crime.

This was the belief of his father James. An extensive correspondence with the U. S. Consul in the loading ports of the West Indies has failed to discover any such person.

The effort to find this lost pleiad will not be abandoned.

9th.

Lot Chadwick

Lot the ninth, and youngest, child of James and Ruth (Hatch) Chadwick did not go to Maine with the rest of the family, but remained with the grandmother Elizabeth, at Falmouth. He probably went to the new settlement in Maine the next year, when James went there with his wife and two daughters.

Lot married Betsy Belden of Palermo and by her had nine children. Lot settled in Palermo, near the "Bronch Mills".

Children of Lot and Betsy (Belden) Chadwick --

1. Lydia Chadwick m. Samuel Dennis and had 4 children.
2. Stephen m. 1st, Ruth Dennis, had 8 children; 2nd, Margaret Plummer and had 5 children.
3. Benjamin m. Susan Light and had 8 children.
4. Naomi m. 1st, Ephraim Sims and had 4 children; 2nd, Silas Fish but had no children.
5. Aaron died young and was never married.
6. Joseph m. Mrs. Mary Longfellow (born Worthing) and had 4 children.
7. Francis Cobb m. Hannah Staples and had 4 children.
8. Eliza m. William Wilson and had 5 children.
9. Dousilla died unmarried.

[Illegible text block]

[Illegible text block]

[Illegible text block]

[Illegible text block]

[Illegible text block]

[Illegible text block]

[Illegible text block]

Death of Paul Chadwick

In giving this account of the Chadwicks, it has been my purpose not to mention any name later than the second generation from James and Ruth.

But an event affecting one of the third generation was so tragic and so deeply concerned not the family alone, but also the town, the county and even the whole state, at the time of its happening, that I cannot forbear to refer to it somewhat in detail; and the more for preserving the correct history of the sad affair - an affair that was quite generally misunderstood by the community at large. I hope to correct some misapprehensions as to facts in the case, especially as the observations that I shall make concerning them are based on the statements made to me by an eye witness of the unfortunate affair. I refer to the sad and deplorable death of Paul Chadwick, son of Job, a young man and for those times, well educated, concerning whose character the solicitor-general of the state, at the beginning of the trial of his murderers, bore this strong testimony:--

"It will appear in evidence, that Paul Chadwick was a young man, a native of this part of the county and resident in Malta; and that he was a youth of blameless character and morals, who had but a few months before his melancholy death, settled and married in that town; having commenced the career of life under favorable and flattering prospects".

When a child I used to hear the incidents of the unfortunate affair or tragedy rehearsed in my father's family by those who were by circumstances compelled to be witnesses of what occurred. It is but simple justice to all concerned that the facts should be known, especially as the reputation and good name of some families were involved, families who were in both parties to the controversy. It is withal important that the matter should be treated with judgment, especially as some of the families in both parties were subsequently closely allied by intermarriage. It would appear at this time - 92 years since the event happened - the matter could be treated with impartiality. We shall attempt to so refer to it. The events preceding and leading up to the controversy cannot be more succinctly and intelligently stated than by quoting from a letter of Hon. Richard Hallowell Gardiner, written in 1850 to Prof. A. A. Packard, of Bowdoin College, librarian of the Maine Historical Society, in presenting to that society a copy of the book published in 1810 entitled "Trial of Barton and others for Murder of Paul Chadwick". These statements of Mr. Gardiner are entitled to

very great weight, especially as they were made nearly 50 yrs. after the events referred to and were made by a man who was in search only for the facts of history. The quotations are made from the original copy of the letter and are as follows:-

"To understand the nature of the crime for which the persons, whose trial is narrated in this volume, were arraigned, it is necessary to refer to the state of the country at that time. At the close of the Revolutionary War, Maine offered more inducements as a place of settlement to the surplus population of Massachusetts and New Hampshire than any other place, and very many of the disbanded soldiers of the revolutionary army belonging to these states came here to --- make a home. They did not trouble themselves much about the ownership of the land on which they were about to settle. They heard that the proprietors were either mostly Tories, who had abandoned their country, or absenteers, who had paid no attention to their lands, which previous to the revolution had been freely offered on slight conditions to those who would settle them. By 1797 the settlers had become very numerous and formed themselves into bodies to resist the claims of the proprietors, who had become desirous to enforce their rights. The proprietors of the Waldo Patent unable to obtain their rights by law, petitioned the legislature for aid and offered to convey to the settlers upon their lands such portions as they were in possession of, upon such terms as a commission appointed by the governor and council should award. The commission was appointed and a large body of settlers were thus quitted in their possessions.

A similar course was adopted by the proprietors of the "Kennebec Purchase" in the years 1802, 1803, and 1804. In 1809 there was still a large body of squatters who had neglected to submit their possessions to the commission, or been unable to comply with the terms, or had taken up their lands since. These (settlers) formed extensive combinations determined to resist all processes of law against them on account of their lands. Surveyors were forbidden to come on to their premises and sheriffs were threatened if they attempted to serve their writs, and occasionally guns were fired at them tho' it was not known whether they were loaded. To break off this combination the proprietors of the "Kennebec Purchase" agreed to sell Paul Chadwick among others his lot in Malta on favorable terms, and to employ him to assist in its survey. He was at once denounced a traitor and his life was deemed to be forfeited and the murder was perpetrated as related in the trial.

Soon after the murder 7 of the 9 persons engaged in its perpetration were arrested and put in jail in Augusta. The squatters formed a well armed band who disguised as Indians, threatened to break into the jail and release the prisoners. The Governor called out the militia and their companies were stationed at Augusta, till

the trial was over, a period of more than two months. The peremptory right of challenge gave the prisoners the right of choosing from those drawn to serve on the jury the individuals who should try them; who were of course persons who fully sympathized with them in their feelings against the proprietors. Even the jury were together two days before they could agree upon a verdict of acquittal. If one or two only had been tried the verdict might have been different, but it seemed contrary to the common feeling of justice that 6 or 7 persons should be executed for the murder of a single individual".

The inhabitants of the northerly part of Malta (now Windsor) were most violent in their opposition to the proprietors in any attempt to make surveys of their land or to set up any bounds. It was the testimony of those living in those turbulent times that the proprietors had no intention of attempting to dispossess the settlers of their lands on which they had squatted, but only to survey them and set up bounds, that their titles might have a proper description, as had already been done in the case of the squatters on the lands of the Waldo Patent. It must be born in mind that the squatters had not any titles to their lands and could not have any except at the hands of the lawful owners - the proprietors of the "Kennebec Purchase". Their agent was at this time the Hon. Ruel Williams of Augusta, whose successor in office was the Hon. Joseph H. Williams, whose death occurred in that city but a very few years ago. The facts about this business can be verified by that office if any one wishes to do so.

As stated in the communication of Mr. Gardiner the residents of Malta through a total misapprehension of the situation came to think that the only thing for them to do was to resist all attempts to settle with the lawful owners of their lands. Consequently they combined for mutual resistance and so the story goes, bound themselves by terrible oaths even signing their names to some sort of compact with their own blood.

Paul Chadwick was represented as one of those so sworn to make forcible resistance. Not a particle of evidence ever appeared that such a secret organization ever had any existence except in imagination. They did not stop to argue the reasonableness of their position, but believing that all who were not with them in their opposition to the Plymouth Company were their enemies they threatened them with personal violence. Chadwick was one of those denounced as traitor because he preferred to settle his controversy by peaceable means rather than by forcible ones.

It matters little whether or not he was ever one of their "patriots" as they were fond of calling themselves, inasmuch as the act for which they assaulted him with murderous intent was one

of a peaceful nature and entirely outside of the controversy.

One, Aaron Choate, was desirous of purchasing a piece of land, from whom we are not told, but presumably from the Plymouth Land Co.

He employed a surveyor named John Davis to fix the lines and obtained the assistance of Paul Chadwick, a Mr. Pratt and a Mr. Nash to assist in the work. In the afternoon of Sept. 8, 1809, while the men were engaged in the peaceful occupation of determining a boundary line on the estate of Mr. Henry Marsh, Chadwick carrying the front of the chain was in advance of the company. It was when the surveyors were near a stream that a party of nine young men partially disguised as Indians and attempting to imitate the Indian speech, armed with some guns and pistols and others with knives made from scythes, all more or less influenced with liquor met the surveying party and after much profanity and many threats, one fired at Chadwick and wounded him in the legs; a second shot wounded him in the bowels and a third in the shoulder. They then kicked the prostrate form and told him it was good enough for him and left him to his fate. After threatening the other members with him if they spoke, the murderers disappeared.

The spot where Chadwick was shot on the west bank of the west branch of the Sheepscot river, about a half mile below Weeks Mills and a few rods below where the present Railroad bridge crosses the stream.

Chadwick's family was notified of the situation, and the surveying party carried the wounded man to the house of his father-in-law, David Loeman, which was about one-third of a mile away, on the west side of the stream.

Chadwick's house was on the road leading southward from what is now known as Tyler's corner and about one-fourth mile below the present Baptist church. Chadwick lived in great agony for two days when he died.

His body was buried in the old cemetery on Chadwicks Hill.

Seven of the nine young men who had committed the murderous assault were arrested, brought before Justice Brackett where they all confessed to their "shame and confusion" that they were present when Chadwick was shot, bound over to await trial and lodged in Augusta jail.

Justice Brackett took the ante-mortem statement of Chadwick, in which he named some of his assailants. As soon as the young men were lodged in jail their friends looked upon the matter as pure persecution and at once began to devise means for their forcible release. They

formed companies, drilled and disguised in the garb of Indians appeared on several occasions in the woods on the hill east of the city of Augusta, making some threatened demonstrations against the authorities. This hill has always been known as "Malta" hill and those sorties as the "Malta War".

Excitement ran high. To quiet the public's apprehension and to provide against all surprises the Governor called out the militia, which remained in camp until after the trial which came in November.

Four of Massachusetts' most eminent justices were selected for this trial - Hon. Theodore Edgwick, L. L. D., Hon. Samuel Sewall, L. L. D., Hon. George Thatcher and Hon. Isaac Parker. As the accused had the right of peremptory challenge of twenty of the jurors and as many more as they could challenge by assigning cause. They had practically had the choice of the jury that was to decide the case. As the accused were without counsel the court assigned them four eminent lawyers for their defense, - Prentice Mellon, Samuel S. Wilder, Thomas Rice and Philip Leach.

The confession of the accused made before the trial Justice Brackett the dying statement of Chadwick made and sworn to before the same justice were both admitted as evidence by the court, tho' the counsel for the accused made most determined opposition to such admission. Then too there was the testimony of the three men - men of trust and veracity - who were present at the shooting. In addition to the testimony the charge of the judge so clearly settled the case in the minds of all present at the trial that it was supposed that the jury would find a verdict of guilty, without leaving their seats. Instead, the jury, after deliberating upon the matter for two days, returned a verdict of acquittal for the defendants, to the utter consternation of the court and people and to the surprise of the accused, as they themselves afterwards confessed.

Two causes contributed to produce this verdict - 1st, the sympathy of the jury with the cause of the accused, a sympathy so marked that it seemed a mockery of justice to commit so solemn a case to a jury so composed; 2nd, the state of public feeling in the part of the country where the accused lived, which in case they had been declared guilty, it was feared would manifest itself in more acts of violence.

The effect of the verdict was not so disastrous as many feared. The contestants saw that violence had already gone too far and they were inclined to resort to more peaceful methods; the very methods that Paul Chadwick had adopted for which they had made him pay the forfeit of his life.

The first of these is the fact that the majority of the population of the United States is of European descent. This is a fact which is often overlooked, and which is of great importance in understanding the history and development of the United States.

The second of these is the fact that the majority of the population of the United States is of European descent. This is a fact which is often overlooked, and which is of great importance in understanding the history and development of the United States.

The third of these is the fact that the majority of the population of the United States is of European descent. This is a fact which is often overlooked, and which is of great importance in understanding the history and development of the United States.

The fourth of these is the fact that the majority of the population of the United States is of European descent. This is a fact which is often overlooked, and which is of great importance in understanding the history and development of the United States.

The fifth of these is the fact that the majority of the population of the United States is of European descent. This is a fact which is often overlooked, and which is of great importance in understanding the history and development of the United States.

The sixth of these is the fact that the majority of the population of the United States is of European descent. This is a fact which is often overlooked, and which is of great importance in understanding the history and development of the United States.

The land proprietors were disposed to modify their demands. The people soon obtained titles to their lands at a cost only a little in excess of the expense made necessary to fill out the papers.

Excitement soon abated and public feeling was running in peaceful channels.

This so called "land war" was a most unfortunate affair and almost wholly without cause. Families that had a most honored name were arraigned in hostility against one another. Happily the war ended forever. Those who had been engaged in opposing the lawful authorities soon became peaceable citizens and their families among the most respected in the community.

In my boyhood days I know three of those who had stood trial for their lives, as venerable men and respected citizens. In my young manhood their grandchildren were among my most respected pupils.

"All's well that ends well".

"Trial of David Lynn, Jabez Meigs, Elijah Parton, Prince Cain, Nathaniel Lynn, Ansel Meigs and Adam Pitts for the murder of Paul Chadwick, at Malta, in Maine, on Sept. 8th, 1809 before the Hon. Theodore Sedgwick, L. L. D., Hon. Samuel Sewall, L. L. D., Hon. George Thatcher, Hon. Isaac Parker, Justices of the Supreme Judicial Court held at Augusta, by adjournment, Nov. 16, 1809.

Taken in shorthand by John Merrick, Esq., Hallowell, Jan. 1810".

For accuracy and fullness this report is a masterpiece.

Coll. of the Maine Hist. Soc. Vol. 7, p. 387.

